

John Tyler to Andrew Jackson, August 18, 1844, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>PRESIDENT TYLER TO JACKSON.

Washington, August 18, 1844.

. . . . Your letter to Major Lewis was, as you requested, shown to me, and your views as to the proper course for me to pursue in the present emergency of public affairs has decided me to withdraw from the canvass. This I have made repeated efforts to do at an early period of my administration and was overruled by the advice of others. The reasons of my withdrawing now will be given to the world in a few days. If the Republicans of the Whig party of 1840 will but declare themselves in favour of Mr. Polk his election is rendered certain. I count 40,000 friends in Ohio and a controuling power in Pennsylvania, Virginia and New Jersey, which if it can be brought to cooperate will decide the contest. But my Dear Sir, you are well aware of the difficulty of any man's controuling his friends. Yet, I do not despair if the Democratic press performs its duty. They should open the arms of the party fairly and fully to all who choose to rally and more especially to all who voted for you in 1828 and 1832 as did the most of those who now support me. But every thing depends on the course of Mr. Polks friends and press. I have been so prominently the object of attack on the part of the Globe and so furiously assailed by Col. Benton, that without an immediate change in this respect I fear that no great good will ensue to the Democratic party.

I am expecting dispatches from General Howard 1 with great anxiety. Much of the course of the Government will depend upon their complexion. Rely upon it my dear Sir, that nothing shall be left undone on my part to assure the success of the great measure of

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annexation. I regard it as the great measure of the age and I seek only to be considered as one of the most desirous for its attainment.

1 Tilghman A. Howard, charged'affaires in Texas since June, had died in Washington, Texas, on Aug. 16.

Accept a renewal of my best wishes for a perfect restoration of your health and a prolong'd continuance of your life and happiness.